



File Code: 2230/2210

Date: March 24, 2015

Flying Resort Ranches, Inc.  
c/o Tammy Overacker  
9 Hamner Drive  
Salmon, ID 83467

Dear Tammy,

This letter serves as your 2015 Annual Operating Instructions for the Middle Fork Allotment, and should be considered as an extension of Term Grazing Permit #60005. Prior approval by the District Ranger is required to amend or change these instructions.

#### Permitted Use

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Flying Resort Ranches	40 Horses	Term	5/1-9/1	163
Flying Resort Ranches	40 Horses	Term	11/20-12/20	41

#### Authorized Use for 2015

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Flying Resort Ranches	40 Horses	Term	5/1-9/1	163
Flying Resort Ranches	40 Horses	Term	11/20-12/20	41

#### Pasture Rotation

Unit	Number	On-Date	Off-Date
Sheep Creek (Unit # 1)	40	May 1	July 1
Brush Creek (Unit # 2)	40	July 2	September 1
Brush Creek (Unit # 2)	40	November 20	December 20

The on-date is only a guide since actual turn-out will be when range readiness occurs. Moves from unit to unit will occur before forage utilization standards have been met and no later than the scheduled off-date.



## Utilization Standards

Upland Forage	Riparian Greenline	Woody Browse
< 40 %	45% or > 4" sedges/rushes	< 30% on single stemmed species (i.e. aspen) < 50% multi stemmed species (i.e. willows) new leader growth

### Permittee's Management Responsibilities:

1. *Please inform the authorized officer in charge three days prior to initial livestock turnout.* If you move onto the allotment late and want to stay past your off date, you must make arrangements early in the grazing season and obtain prior approval from the District Ranger.
2. *Do not wait for the authorized officer to tell you it is time to move to the next unit.* It is the Permittee's responsibility to insure livestock are moved before utilization levels are exceeded and to notify the Forest Officer of this move.
3. Riding and herding is necessary to properly distribute livestock. The permittee will provide a rider throughout the grazing season to maintain proper distribution of livestock, reduce use in riparian areas, and prevent concentrated use by livestock that could result in portions of the pasture becoming over-utilized. Use of riparian areas needs to be carefully monitored to ensure that utilization standards are met. Range personnel will monitor riparian and upland forage utilization.
4. Salt should be placed on suitable range at least  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from permanently located watering places, riparian zones, meadows and other areas where livestock naturally congregate. Placement should be in upland areas where additional forage utilization is desired. Salting areas should be moved annually to avoid permanent damage around salting grounds. Do not use the same salting grounds year after year.
5. *Use of riparian areas needs to be carefully monitored by permittee.* Range personnel will also monitor forage use in riparian areas where livestock concentrate.
6. The *permittee's* responsibility is to keep their animals in the proper unit. Livestock found in the wrong units or allotments should be returned immediately to the correct pasture within 24 hours of notification by phone or letter. Early use or repeated use of unauthorized pastures could result in an early move or off-date, or cancellation or suspension of your permit. Routine checks need to be made by you and/or your rider.
7. Any carcass or animal remains will be moved at least 100 yards from water, trails and roads within 24 hours of notification by a forest officer.
8. Under Special Order # 04-00-097 all hay, straw or mulch brought onto the forest for the feeding of horses must be Certified Weed Free.
9. The agency requests that you (the permittee) be a pro-active partner in the inventory, management and treatment of noxious weeds on your allotment and adjacent National

Forest System lands. All equipment which is used off of open roads on federal lands (for range improvement maintenance, or other management activities) should be cleaned and free of noxious weeds and their seeds prior to coming onto National Forest System lands. Please share your knowledge of known noxious weed infestations with your Range Management Specialist.

10. Inspect and clean motorized and mechanized trail vehicles of weeds and their seeds before and after using Forest roads and trails.

11. *The move-off date is the date you must have all livestock off the grazing allotment, not the day to start moving livestock off the allotment.*

### **Range Improvements:**

**The boundary fence between private land and Forest Service lands will need limited reconstruction to be brought to a fully functional condition prior to turnout in 2015.**

Thank you for your efforts to continue maintenance/reconstruction to structural improvements on your allotment. Per our meeting this spring, maintenance/reconstruction needs to be completed on the following development: Bernard Boundary Fence #101059. **This development is necessary to control livestock and will need to be fully functional prior to livestock turnout in 2015.**

No ground disturbing activities or new construction should be conducted on the Forest by the Permittee or their personnel without approval from the District Ranger. Materials for replacement and heavy maintenance will be provided to the Permittee by the Forest Service whenever possible. Materials for normal yearly maintenance are the responsibility of the Permittee.

All annual maintenance on assigned improvements must be completed per your Term Grazing Permit. Range improvements will be maintained before livestock enter a pasture or the allotment. They should be kept to a standard of repair which is functional, safe, and acceptable to the Forest Service. Improvements are listed in your Term Grazing Permit and are shown on the Allotment map. If you have questions regarding which improvements are your responsibility, please contact your Range Management Specialist. Failure to complete necessary maintenance may result in the initiation of permit suspension or cancellation procedures in whole or in part.

### **Other Considerations:**

Range inspections may occur several times during the grazing season to check maintenance of range improvements, forage utilization, and compliance with this year's grazing rotation. You are invited to participate in inspections conducted on the allotment. We will try to contact you a few days in advance to let you know when we will be looking at your allotment.

Much of your allotment is within congressionally designated wilderness. In fulfilling your obligations under your grazing permit, no use of mechanized transport or motorized tools is authorized within the wilderness. Use of motorized tools or mechanized transport would be a

violation of the code of Federal Regulations (36 CFR 261.18 (a) (b)) and thus a violation of your Term Grazing permit Part 1 and 3.

Enclosed is a Year-End Grazing Report for you to record Actual Use data for 2015 and range improvement needs for future grazing seasons. Please record the date and number of livestock turned onto the allotment, the dates livestock are moved to and from each pasture, and the date livestock are removed off the allotment. Accurate records of these dates, maintenance work completed, and future range improvement needs should be returned to our office at the end of the grazing season. The Forest Service uses these records to help allocate Range Betterment Funds, which are used to purchase materials for improvement reconstruction. These reports are requested annually by USFWS and NMFS, so your diligence in accurately completing the forms is appreciated.

If you have any questions regarding these Annual Operating Instructions, please call me or Barry Dopp, Range Management Specialist, at 208-879-4100. We are looking forward to working with you this grazing season.

Sincerely,

/s / Elizabeth A. Townley

ELIZABETH A. TOWNLEY  
District Ranger

Enclosures – Actual Use Report  
Bill for Collection  
Allotment Map  
Term Grazing Permit

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In an effort to better serve your needs, we are implementing this portion of the annual use report to identify any structural range improvement that is priority for reconstruction. This will help us make plans to authorize money for out-years; we are anticipating a five year schedule..

### Range Improvements in Need of Attention:

[illegible]

Comments:

[illegible]

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_